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BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON KRUGLOV,
NEW SOVIET MINISTER OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS

SZ [not further identified]

Sergey Nikiforovich Kruglov has recently succeeded Beriya as Minister of Internal Affairs USSR. Kruglov, 53 years old, and former leading official of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, played a primary role in Beriya's removal. He was only an assistant and tool of other more powerful men in the party Presidium and the administration of the Soviet government; however, as a reward for services rendered in Beriya's removal, he was appointed to his present powerful post.

For many years, Kruglov was a department head of the People's Commissariat of Heavy Industry in Moscow. In 1938, he became a major of the State Security Troops and served in the infamous Lubyanka, the large police prison. He later became deputy head of a labor camp and was charged with the employment of concentration camp inmates in industry. In that capacity, he received outstanding recognition, and in March 1939 he was elected deputy member of the Central Committee of the VKP(b).

At the beginning of World War II, he headed the [NKVD] Counterespionage Section. In 1943, he organized a special counterespionage department which he directed until the first part of 1949, when he became Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs USSR. In the latter capacity, Kruglov was permitted to accompany Stalin to the Yalta and Potsdam conferences. In the pictures of these meetings, he stands directly behind Stalin. Kruglov received high British and American honors, since at both conferences he was security officer for all foreign representatives. Later in 1949, Kruglov became Minister of Internal Affairs, which post he held until Stalin's death. Meanwhile, he had become a major general of the State Security Troops.

One of his main tasks as Minister of Internal Affairs was to employ concentration camp inmates for industry; and in fall 1952, he received his second Order of Lenin for supplying the manpower for the construction of the Volga-Don Canal. In

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October 1952, he was promoted to full member of the Central Committee of the CPSU. After Stalin's death, when the Ministry of State Security was merged with the Ministry of Internal Affairs under the leadership of Beriya, Kruglov became Beriya's first deputy.

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